

AT THE HEMISPHERE'S END



WHERE BUT UNUSUAL ENVIRONMENT LIVES

If you crave the unusual it may be encountered in South America as in few other lands. But before visiting that part of the world make sure you are well supplied with money and in a mood to put up with more or less discomfort and inconvenience; for the exceptional will be your portion in this line as well as in others," says Frederic S. Isham, author and globe trotter, in the *Detroit Free Press*.

"South America is a land of magnificent distances, also of surprises, some of which are not exactly welcome, although on the whole it is a very interesting part of the world," said Mr. Isham, recounting some of the experiences that befell them on the trip. "You are constantly running on to the unexpected, so that there is no danger of being wearied by lack of variety."

"We met one man who has the most trying position of which I know. He's an American—a big, broad shouldered, athletic chap, with the polish of a university man and the breezy open-hearted manner of a true westerner."

"He is an engineer, and it is his duty to see that the Chilean division of the Trans-Andean railroad is kept free from land and snow slides."

"That doesn't sound so bad, does it, because you can have no conception of what it means unless you have seen the country. The Trans-Andean railroad is a third-rail system in the strictest sense of the word. That third rail is located between the narrow gauge strips of steel on which the cars travel, and is a cogged affair into which the teeth on the driving wheels of the locomotive slip, giving sufficient grip to pull the heavy trains up the almost perpendicular slopes."

"On the Chilean side of the Andes it is a case of climbing almost every foot of the way, and at times it seems as though the locomotive must fall backward on the cars that follow."

"This chap lives in a little stone house close by Inca lake, in the Andes, 12,000 feet above sea level. He has a gang of natives under him, and at certain seasons of the year they are kept on the camp battling with snow slides, which bury the tracks so deep that it requires days of the hardest kind of work to clear them."

"Then the mountains have a playful habit of casting off a good big slice of rock and dirt, which comes tumbling down across the tracks and puts an end to travel until it has been removed."

"Sometimes these pranks result seriously, and there's many a lonely grave along the right of way to indicate the last resting place of some poor section man who was buried beneath a slide. Last winter a few square acres of snow and rock and ice came crashing down on a crew that were endeavoring to clear the tracks. Part of them escaped, but two were killed and immediately began digging out their fellow workers. At the end of 24 hours they came upon a sorry figure—a battered section man who had borne the full brunt of the slide."

"And what do you think he did when they pulled him out, more dead than alive? Battered them for leaving him buried so long."

"You're a fine lot," he stormed, "why, you left me in there two hours. It wasn't your fault that I didn't die."

"And the hands on the clock had started on their third round trip since the slide went over him!"

"The place this engineer calls home is one of the most Godforsaken spots I ever saw. They try to keep the road open the year round, but there are three or four months every winter when trains are few and far between, and the district is virtually cut off from the outside world."

"The scenery along the route is impressive—but somehow I didn't envy this particular American his job."

"Crossing the crest of the Andes and getting down to the Argentine plains you strike one of the widest gauge railroads in the world. Service on the line is not so bad—in some respects."

"They have single and double compartment cars for male and female passengers. It was my ill fortune to draw a seat in a double compartment with three Spaniards. Now, they are not exactly the traveling companions you would select for a 24-hour ride across the plains, a journey that is trying under the most favorable conditions."

"They are passionately fond of onions of a particularly rank variety. Without exception they smoke cigarettes that make burning rubber reek of attic of roses. Most of them are affected with bronchial trouble. They detest fresh air. Also they never have acquired a liking for a cold plunge before breakfast—or a bath any other time, for that matter. When I was ready to enter the train three of the most disreputable representatives of their species were settled comfortably in the compartment. Delightful prospect."

"Just about that time I had the good fortune to run into an American engineer who was on his way to Buenos Aires. He had the same luck as I—three of the unwashed in his compartment. Fortunately he was able to talk some Spanish."

"Let's bribe the guard and see if we can't get a compartment to ourselves," I suggested.

"No sooner said than tried. Presently my new-found friend came back. We had with our train a virtuous guard. Offered five dollars to effect the desired change. He spurned the tender with a fine display of indignation. He could not be hired—for such a paltry sum. But for ten dollars he would throw the dirty rascals out, bag and baggage."

"Gladly I contributed the other half of the bribe. Soon baggage began to fly out on the platform, followed by a jabbering trio, who made the Argentine air blue with picturesque profanity as they protested against this summary ejectment."

"They produced tickets to show they were entitled to seats in this particular compartment. The guard, in his most imperious manner, informed them that he cared not what their tickets called for. Did not he have the official chart of



BOATMEN, GUARDING BY THE LA PRENSA BUILDING

the train? And did it not show that this particular compartment belonged to the two distinguished American travelers? Out with such dogs as they. And out they went."

"I never learned what became of them. The next morning when we left the train at Buenos Aires three ugly looking Spaniards glared at us as they trudged by with their baggage—but we cared not. All the way across the plains we had a compartment to ourselves, a double portion of bedding and every attention that the guard could bestow upon us."

"Even then there was sufficient discomfort. The rain came down in torrents throughout the entire trip. The roofs of the coaches leaked like a sieve, and some of the passengers who were fortunate enough to possess such an article found it expedient to sit under an umbrella. The dining car had a couple of inches of water on the floor and we found it necessary to wear rubbers when going in to our meals."

"Buenos Aires is an interesting seaport, with a wonderful waterfront and dock system. However, it is in some respects one of the deader places imaginable."

"No respectable woman of the country is to be found in the innumerable cafes of an evening, for the reason that she would not be safe from insult. The only place of amusement where the young women of the city can go is the opera house, and this has only a brief season."

"As an example of up-to-date construction and equipment the railroad which runs from Santos to Sao Paulo, in Brazil, commands attention. It is doubtful if there is anything more complete anywhere on earth. The road is only 25 miles long, but so far as I could discover the only thing they overlooked in their endeavors to outstrip all others was to gild the telegraph poles and to use gold wires."

"The road impressed me so that I made some inquiries, and discovered the reason for this lavish expenditure. It seems that one of the terms under which the concession was granted was that all profits above 8 per cent. were to go to the government."



LA PRENSA BUILDING BUENOS AIRES



LACHINA DEL INCA, INDIAN

"So far as I could discover there had been no appreciable decrease in the national debt from the government's share of the profits. It makes vast sums of money—but everything above the stipulated 8 per cent. goes back into the enterprise."

"Evidently spending these earnings so they will not fall into the hands of the government is a strenuous job and calls for no little ingenuity. There are gutters alongside the tracks to carry off the water. These are paved with small sections of stone, laid with mosaic precision. This feature alone, wholly unnecessary, must have cost a vast amount. And everything else is on the same extravagant scale."

"To crowd more thrills into a given length of time than you would have thought possible it is only necessary to hire a taxicab in Rio Janeiro. Here dare devils find its highest expression in the way the drivers have a union of their own and they dictate things to suit themselves. Whenever one of them hits a pedestrian he throws on more power and races off, never waiting to see whether or not he killed his victim. And they hit them with frightful frequency. Every day the newspapers publish a brief summary of accidents of this nature, and I should say the average was around 20."

CO-OPERATION IN BIBLE TIMES

In common with many of the prophets of Bible times, Ahijah, the man who placed Jeroboam over the ten tribes of Israel, was a rural man, W. A. Lippincott writes in the *Kansas Industrialist*. Ahijah, who outwitted the brilliant and scheming Queen Jezebel, went about preaching in his shepherd's mantle and carrying the shepherd's staff as though proud of his country origin. Of Eliah, his successor, we are told that at the time when Eliah offered him a job as his helper he was plowing with 12 yoke of oxen. The fact that this is recorded we would interpret to mean that he was considered a skillful teamster.

When Saul first comes to our attention in the Old Testament, he was out on the range looking for his father's asses that had broken away from the picket or escaped the wrangler. Later we find him coming after the herd out of the field. David was a red headed farm boy called from his keeping the sheep to have Judea Samuel pass comments upon him to his father and point out the great possibilities he saw in the boy.

The problems which confronted the people of the Old Testament and the questions involved in current legislation have just as modern a ring as has the emblem and great. One of the problems which they had solved and which we have not was that of co-operation among farmers. Another was the question of concentration in the ownership of land with its attendant evil, the absentee landlord.

You will not find the subject of co-operation discussed as such in the Old Testament, perhaps, but you will find it put into practice.

So far as can be learned, there were no isolated farm houses where single families lived alone. As a general thing, a number of more or less related families united in forming a rural village. These were not cities in any sense, nor even small towns, but little hamlets set in the midst of the fields and hills. The country districts were dotted with these tiny villages, and we find constant reference to them throughout the Old and New Testaments. Every morning the men went out to the fields to work and at night they came back to the village for shelter.

The reason for this gathering into villages was that the farmers were under the necessity of co-operating against the attacks of enemies from the

desert and the surrounding countries. They co-operated just as the sturdy pioneers of our own early colonial days co-operated in the use of the stockade—because they had to. And the trend of the times seems to be that the farmers of today are co-operating more and more for the same reason—because they find themselves to.

It's a case of self-preservation now as much as it was in Bible or early colonial times. The enemy is not the same, save in the characteristic of being a common enemy. Then the necessity was military; now it is economic and social, but it is just as real.

And there are those who have studied this question deeply, who feel very certain that the time will come when the American farmers will again be gathered into farm villages, as the farmers of Germany have already gathered, under the pressure of economic necessity and as a part of a broad program of co-operation.

HERE'S THE SIMPLE LIFE.

The south for years was rich hunting ground for the lover of the picturesque, but changes both numerous and rapid have occurred there in recent years. The old negro types of the cotton fields are no more. The log cabins, the pine groves, even the stately plantation mansions, recalling the flowery days of "befo' de wah," are passing away. Fortunately for those who enjoy seeing life as it is lived where there is a real attachment to the soil, the French section of Canada is left us. Here along the lower St. Lawrence river one may find conditions exactly as they were a century ago. Here the "one-hoss shay" of the pride of colonial days, is making its last stand. In the fields women can be seen cutting grain with sickles than which there is no implement more primitive. The people of the hamlets live and work as did their great grandparents. Picture to yourself a place where spinning is still an everyday task! I have sat in these simple homes, watching old fingers at the spinning wheels and listening to their whirling sound that is like the hum or bees. It was in one of these old interiors that I photographed Grandmère Trudeau. She sits looking from her cabin across the river, thinking of a son at sea.—*Christian Herald*.

the effect of apparitions that come and go and change their shapes. The color blind person lacks the cones and his rods act with extraordinary outline of things as long as there is the least amount of light present. That means that he never sees ghosts."

Preserved Memory of Friend.
Ten years ago Leonidas Hubbard, Jr. met his death by starvation while exploring that bleakest of lands, Labrador. His comrade on the trip, Dillon Wallace, who survived, recently

went again to Labrador with a tablet as a memorial to his friend. In trying to reach the place where Hubbard died, his canoe upset and the tablet was lost. Wallace, however, persevered and finally carved this inscription on a bowlder: "Leonidas Hubbard, Jr., intrepid explorer and practical Christian, died here October 18, 1903. John xiv, fourth verse."

University of Today.
The true university of these days is a collection of books.—*Carlyle*.

FOR THE HOUSE IN WINTER

Those Who Prefer Blooms to Foliage Should Cultivate the Primula Obconica.

The window-gardener who wishes blooms rather than foliage during the winter, should grow *Primula Obconica*.

This plant when well established in a seven-inch pot, will have dozens of stalks or clusters of blooms about the size of a nickel, and they last a long time.

The plant begins to bloom when very small and blooms all winter. The colors vary through the many shades of pink, lilac, and peach-blossom to almost white, and with its lemon-yellow eye sets off the very delicate beauty of the flower.

It is a hardy, self-reliant plant, well able to hold its own, and is seldom troubled with insects or disease. If the apple appears, spray with tobacco-infusion throughout the foliage.

This plant may be raised from seed, or a large plant may be divided, allowing a crown to each plant.

See that its soil is light, and rich, and friable, and the drainage perfect. This plant cannot stand wet, sour soil, or to have water poured into its crown.

If care is not taken in this regard, the flowers will blast and the plant die.

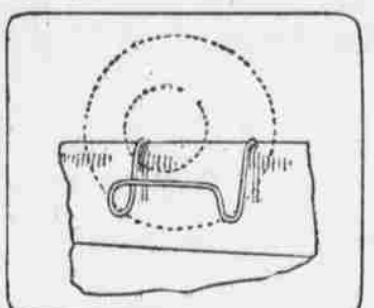
Twice or three times a month apply some good liquid fertilizer while the plant blooms.

Remove the fading flowers and do not allow the plant to mature seeds.

HANGER FOR WASH BASIN.

If there's a wash basin in your kitchen the chances are you are compelled to look for it every time you want to use it. That is the way it usually is! Why not fix things so that the basin is kept right alongside the sink?

Get a length of heavy wire—ordi-



Holds Basin in Place.

nary bare wire will do—and bend it in the shape shown in the drawing. The basin rests in that hook all the time.

Boston Brown Bread.

Mix and sift together one cup of rye meal, one cup of granulated cornmeal, three-fourths teaspoonful of soda, one teaspoonful of salt, one cup of graham flour; add three-fourths cup of molasses and two cups of sour milk and stir until well mixed, turn into a well buttered mold and steam three and one-half hours. The mold should not be more than three-fourths full, the cover should be buttered on the inside and then tied down with string. For steaming place mold on a trivet in kettle containing boiling water up around mold, cover closely and steam, adding as needed more boiling water. A melon mold or one-pound baking powder box makes the most attractive loaves, but a five-pound lard pail answers the purpose.

Fried Eggs With Apples.

Pare and core three medium sweet apples, then cut in six slices, season all over with one-half teaspoon salt and two teaspoons pepper. Thoroughly heat one and a half tablespoons melted butter in a large frying pan, add apples, one beside another, and fry for two minutes on each side. Carefully crack 12 fresh eggs over apples, season evenly with one-half teaspoon salt and two teaspoons pepper, fry for a minute on range; place in oven for six minutes, remove, carefully glide on a hot dish and serve.

Lima Beans With Fine Herbs.

Boil one pint of shelled lima beans in one quart of boiling water with one teaspoonful salt 25 minutes. Drain on sieve, then place in a saucepan with one ounce good butter. Season with one-half teaspoonful salt and two salt-spoonfuls pepper. Finely chop together two branches parsley, one branch chervil, ten branches chives and six tarragon leaves. Add this mixture to beans, toss well in pan and cook five minutes, frequently tossing meanwhile. Serve in vegetable dish.

Old-Fashioned Corn Bread.

Sift together one cup of yellow cornmeal, one cup of white flour, four teaspoons sugar or two of molasses, four teaspoons baking powder and a pinch of salt. Add one cup of sweet milk to one well-beaten egg; stir this into mixture, then add one tablespoon of melted butter or fat and turn into a well greased and heated pan; bake in a hot oven.

Apple Slump.

This is cooked on top of the stove: Pare one-half dozen apples, put in kettle that can be covered tightly to keep in steam, pour over them one cup boiling water, a little sugar, whatever spice you like. This makes a light dough such as you make for dumplings. Spread over top, cover tightly and steam three-fourths of an hour; eaten hot with butter or sauce.

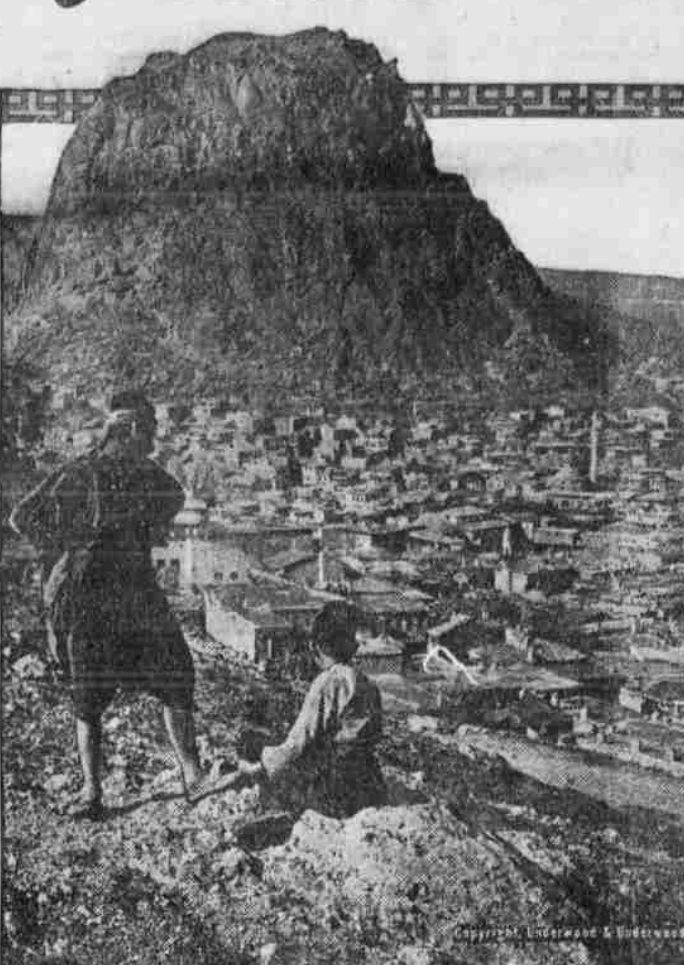
Currant Bun Pudding.

Four currant buns, gotten at bakery, jam, white of one egg, two ounces of sugar. Line a pie dish with the buns previously soaked in milk; put between them a layer of jam and bake one-half hour. Whip the white of the egg up with the sugar and place on top when done.

Stuffed Potatoes.

Select the smooth potatoes; cut off the end of each and scrape out the inside. Mix this with chopped ham, onion and parsley, and a tablespoon of butter. Season with salt, pepper and lemon juice. Fill the potato with the mixture; let bake in moderate oven until tender; serve hot.

RED SEA to MOUNT SINAI



MT. SINAI

TO VISIT the Holy Land is a risk that many people prefer not to run; they would rather keep the picture of Jerusalem in their minds than witness the degradation of an ideal Jerusalem where humbug preys upon credulity at so many shillings per "holy site." Indeed, the faith and ignorance of a Russian pilgrim seems necessary if one would retain unspoiled the childhood's glamour of many scenes of scriptural association. In spite of drawbacks, however, the ever-increasing facilities of travel draw thousands and thousands to Palestine, many of whom return with faith stimulated and imagination strangely vivified. For the danger of disillusion is confined more or less to the cities, whose vulgar modernization so utterly destroys any glamour of the past. The country, the atmosphere, the climate remain fortunately unchanged. To follow the route of the Israelitish exodus, for instance, challenges comparison less crudely. To visit the scenes of the 40 years' wanderings in the wilderness, apparently holds less risk of disillusionment. For the desert does not change; the granite peaks of Sinai may have crumbled, but it has not yet a fanciful railway to bring it up to date; and no tramway line makes convenient, though hideous, the desolate shores of the wonderful Red sea.

Rock Moses Smote.

With a thrill of reverent awe one looks upon the rock that Moses smote for water, the slope where grew the brilliant burning bush, the gray, waste plain where the golden calf enfamed the idolaters, and the bleak, limestone heights whence Moses watched the battle against the Amalekites while Aaron and Hur held up his aching arms.

From Cairo by train to Ismailia, thence to Suez and across the Red sea from the Valley of Moses, some eight miles down the coast—and then, by easy camps, always prepared in advance by Cook's dragoman, to Mount Sinai and its monastery. A good map shows the route, while the brief description and the striking photographs persuaded the reader that he had almost witnessed a swift cinematograph performance. Formalities were considerable, it seems; a permit from the war office had to be obtained, while the necessary camel and Bedouin for the journey were engaged by contract from no less a personage than the archbishop of Sinai! All the Arab tribes, from Suez to Sinai, are under the control of the Sinai convent, each tribe in turn supplying travelers with camels. The dragoman, in this instance, was typical of his race, and the actual start was attended with as many difficulties and delays as those of the Israelites themselves experienced. For Mr. Sutton made the mistake of believing that when Jesus said a thing was done, it had been done!

From the journey itself one gets a vivid impression of a desolate and howling wilderness, "howling" with wind, not savage animals; of waterless

wadis, unbroken by any sign of plant or creature life, their sandy floors strewn with gigantic boulders that earthquakes have shaken down from the surrounding peaks; of occasional delightful cases where the wells, though sometimes brackish, were plentifully filled; of crystal atmosphere, fierce heat, and gorgeous sunsets. The temperature varied between 35 degrees Fahrenheit; often the track (made by camels only) was flat enough to allow a motor car to travel smoothly; the average camel pace was three miles an hour; involving much peculiar inconvenience to a rider who had never been on camel back before. From little details such as these the reader pictures the daily trek and thinks of the host of weary Israelites on foot, with insufficient food, harassed by Amalekites and other disagreeable people, and blaming their leader for leaving behind the tempting flesh-pots of their Egyptian slavery.

Loneliness Complete.

The loneliness was, of course, complete, an occasional Bedouin being the only humanity the little party encountered, except once, when, nearing Sinai, they came across two Englishmen sleeping in the open, without tents or retinue, while they hunted for Turquoises and kept a weather eye alert for ibexes. One has a longing to know more about those two lonely Englishmen on their adventurous quest, but information is not forthcoming.

The mountains stand out boldly on this trip—not only the great bleak range of Sinai, but other hills as well, with naked ridges, gaunt cliffs and peaks of extraordinary formation. The coloring was most striking. Red granite mountains in the glory of the desert dawn must be seen to be believed; but it was the limestone strata that provided the weirdest framework of this desolate wilderness.

The afterglow in desert country can neither be painted nor described. The granite and limestone, too, were varied sometimes by veins of red-brown porphyry, black diorite, and glittering slabs of gypsum, transparent as crystal.

A visit to the Monastery of Sinai is interesting. The party was courteously received by the monks, who now number only 25, instead of, as formerly, 400, and pitched their tent in a convenient spot outside. After attending a service in a modern Greek, "three of the monks called and joined us at tea, when we had a most interesting talk with them about evangelizing their Moslem 'slaves,' i. e., descendants of 100 Roman and 100 Egyptian slaves, proscribed to the monastery by Justinian in the sixth century. They said that up till the English rule in Egypt their lives were in danger, one of the monks having been shot through the chapel window while celebrating mass. Now, thanks to the English, all the country was peaceful and quiet, but yet they had not dared to mention Christianity to their Moslem dependents for fear of raising antagonism." A visit to the charnal house was also made.

Germany Rich in Platinum.

Rich platinum deposits have been discovered in some mines near Wenden in Westphalia, Germany. It was intended to work these mines only for iron, lead, and copper, but a thorough investigation showed the various layers of rock to contain platinum in an unexpectedly high percentage. So far Russia has possessed practically a monopoly of the platinum output. Almost the entire annual output of approximately six and a half tons comes from the Ural mountains. The rich mines are gradually being exhausted, and though the demand for this most precious of metals has increased annually the supply has been continuously decreasing, with the result that a kilogram of pure platinum (about two and two-tenths pounds) is worth about \$1,375.

What is a Week-End?

What, or rather when, is a "week-end"? An English court has had to determine the meaning of the phrase. A man brought a reduced rate "week-end" ticket on Friday and when he sought to return Saturday night was

Color Blind Never Haunted

Are you afraid of the dark? There isn't a chance of your seeing a ghost if you are color blind, which may furnish you a ray of comfort for the beauties of landscape and floral decorations you may have missed during your lifetime. Dr. August Lummer, head of the physical institute of the University of Breslau, in Germany, is authority for this.

Dr. Lummer explains the phenomenon in this way: "The normal eye has an arrangement of tiny rods and cones in the retina. The rods perceive light and the cones color, and a person with a normal eye tries to see in a half dark place the cones, which are useless, interfere with the effective action of the rods, and the confusion creates

the effect of apparitions that come and go and change their shapes. The color blind person lacks the cones and his rods act with extraordinary outline of things as long as there is the least amount of light present. That means that he never sees ghosts."

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